

As a matter of courtesy to Mr. Badger, late Editor of the "Free Press," we publish his card, assigning the reasons which have led to his retirement from that position, although, of course, a portion of his remarks is rendered unnecessary by the withdrawal of Mr. McRae from the canvass in this District.

While we sincerely trust that Mr. Badger will find that happiness and prosperity in the pursuit of private life, which are so seldom vouchsafed to the political Editor, we cannot but regret the loss of his sprightly effusions from the columns of our contemporary.

MAIL AGENT.—Mr. George G. Lynch has been appointed Mail Agent on the route between Wilmington and Weldon, vice William H. Laspeyre, resigned. This is the same position which Mr. Lynch formerly held, and for which he is eminently qualified—being fully acquainted with his duties, and determined to perform them satisfactorily.

The Congressional Canvass.
It will be seen from the communication of Mr. McRae, which we publish in to-day's paper, that, for reasons satisfactory to himself, and which, no doubt, will prove equally so to his friends, that gentleman has withdrawn from the Congressional canvass in this District. This action on the part of Mr. McRae relieves the mutual friends of Mr. Ashe and himself from a position somewhat embarrassing, and will, we hope, tend still further to increase and secure the harmony of the party.

GAS.—We noticed the introduction of the new gas into one or two places of business last night, for the first time; and, although under rather unfavorable circumstances—the gasometer not being full, nor working under sufficient pressure—there could be no doubt entertained of its ultimate complete success. We do not know exactly whether it was in operation at any other places, but we only saw it at Messrs. Polly & Hat's, on Front Street, and Mr. Hutchins' Verandah Saloon, on the Wharf. We have no doubt, however, that it will be very extensively used by our citizens, to whom it will be a great convenience, in every way. By the bye, while looking at the gas down at Hutchins', we noticed one of the improvements of the age in the shape of an apparatus for setting up ten pins, without the intervention of a boy, and without leaving the head of the alley. There will soon be machinery for everything.—Daily Journal, 25th inst.

COPPER.—We have been shown some very beautiful specimens of copper ore, from Chatham county, in this State, brought down from Fayetteville, by Dr. Harris, which may be seen at his office. The largest lumps contain, it would seem, about twenty to twenty-five per cent. of pure copper, embedded in white quartz. The smaller lumps are very nearly pure, the portion of quartz being not more than ten per cent. This copper business certainly bids fair to grow into one of the most important interests in the State, and we have little or no doubt that it will be much more profitable than the copper region on Lake Superior.

MANCHESTER RAIL ROAD.—On Saturday last, a daily local mail from this place commenced being sent on the Manchester Railroad, and the stage line running in connection with it through to South Carolina, carrying mails to and from any point on the route and through.

State Medical Society.
We find in the Carolinian of the 21st, a short sketch of the doings of this Society, at its recent meeting in Fayetteville, from which we learn that the following gentlemen were elected for the ensuing year, viz: Dr. J. H. Dickson, of Wilmington, President; Dr. Daniel DuPre, of New Hanover, Treasurer; Dr. S. S. Satchell, of New Hanover, Corresponding and Recording Secretary; and Dr. J. B. Jones, of Chapel Hill, Orator. Delegates were appointed to the next meeting of the American Medical Association.

The Society numbers about 79 permanent members, and is in a healthy and prosperous condition. Its next meeting will be held at Raleigh, on the second Tuesday of May, 1854.

On Wednesday evening last, the annual address before the Society, was delivered by Dr. J. H. Dickson, of Wilmington. The subject of the address was *Respiration*. The Carolinian says that it evinced thought and research, and is highly spoken of by those more competent to judge of its merits than the Editor. Like our friend of the Carolinian, we have also heard Dr. Dickson's address spoken of in terms of almost unmeasured praise by discriminating members of the profession, by whom it was regarded as alike creditable to the Society, and to the medical faculty of Wilmington, and calculated to enhance the already high reputation of its author.

WATERMELON.—We wish that the day was a little hotter, so that we might the more fully enjoy the delicious slice of watermelon placed upon our table through the politeness of Mr. D. TELLER of Market street. Under any circumstances, however, it is acceptable. We do not know that it is the first of the season, but it is certainly the first we have seen. It came from Charleston.—Daily Journal, 25th inst.

Foreign Appointments.
We publish from the Washington Union of the 24th a considerable list of appointments to full missions, consulates, &c. The Union says: "It is understood that the programme as it stands has been in an especial sense the work of the President himself, and that with him, in fact, as well as in form, is the full responsibility of the selections which it embraces. The cordial concurrence of the members of the cabinet in his determination is well known, as well as the full and free consultation with them upon the subject of which the President has availed himself; yet not less on this account is the list of appointments presented to the country as his own act—the expression of his own policy and the dictate of his own judgment.—In this respect the President has responded to the spirit and the letter of the constitution, which imposes upon him, with the advice and consent of the Senate, the duty and the responsibility of the appointing power."

The gold said to have been discovered in Tyrrell county, N. C., turns out to be nothing more than *kinglass*. So says an exchange paper.

The Charleston Courier of the 23rd announces that Henry W. Conner, Esq., has resigned the Presidency of the South Carolina Railroad, the resignation to take effect on the 1st day of July next. It is the intention of Mr. Conner to resume commercial life.

Congress.—First District.—The Democratic Convention in the First District, has nominated Dr. Shaw, late Senator from Camden and Currituck, as the Democratic candidate in that District in opposition to Hon. DAVID OUTLAW, the present Whig incumbent.

In Good Credit.—The New York Courier & Enquirer quotes North Carolina 6 per cent. stocks at 108.

Under this heading, the Wilmington Herald, in its last Wednesday's issue, makes insinuations which are of a character to carry with them their own condemnation. These insinuations are to the effect that Mr. McRae was bought off from the canvass in this District, by the offer of the appointment to Paris; and that Mr. Ashe, or his friends were, in some way, connected with the procurement of such appointment, and for such purpose. That neither Mr. Ashe, nor his friends had anything to do with this matter, we know—that the action of the President was not based upon any application from any quarter, made since the commencement of the canvass, we also feel assured. As for anybody being afraid of the question of distribution, that must be somewhere else than here. For our own part, we dislike squabbling, but always feel confident of the result, when we have examined the premises carefully, as we had done in this case. But it is useless to dwell upon this matter. It is simply preposterous. Mr. Ashe has no stronger friends than we, but we must say, fairly and candidly, that if we had any reason to suppose that Mr. Ashe had any connection, since the commencement of the canvass, with obtaining an office for his competitor, with the view of removing opposition, we could not and would not cast our vote for him, nor would we expect us to do so. The general tone of these remarks will apply as well to Mr. McRae. Did we for a moment dream of any buying off in connection with his appointment to Paris, we would denounce it instantly. That we do not denounce it is conclusive evidence that we do not suppose any such cause for denunciation to exist.

But the Wilmington Clique! Ye gods and little fishes, Jupiter Juno and 'tether fellows—do tell us who and what the Wilmington Clique is? Has it a local habitation and a name? Does it wear a tail? Has it hoofs and horns, or what is it like unto, generally speaking? "Dew tell"—we feel curious—Unfold, thou multipotent Wilmington Herald!

Gen. Arista and Mexican Annexation.
It would seem that this gentleman, the late President of that strong compound of discordant elements, known as the Mexican Republic, has been ordered into exile by a decree of his successor, Gen. Santa Anna, on the plea that his continued presence in the country would be an obstacle to peace and tranquility. The real grounds seem to be, his predilections in favor of a federal instead of a consolidated Republic, and his known desire to annex Mexico to the United States. Arista was seized and conducted to Vera Cruz, by an escort of dragoons, but protested against the procedure. In his reply to the order of banishment, he says:

"I cannot conceive in what or why my presence in the country should be an obstacle to peace and tranquility. In the letter you sent me as an expression, in substance, that while you (I) remain in Europe, I shall enjoy my rank and its salary, which seems to indicate that it was a crime to have sustained friendly relations with Carbalja and other North American Federalists established on the Northern frontier. I must say to you, that the Federalist idea and sympathies which I entertain for the institutions of North America have not committed me to any action that should subject me to this punishment of exile. I desire the happiness of my country, and to obtain it I see no other way than that of adopting Federal institutions, and, if I please, annexation to the United States, from which there would come to Mexico a fountain inappreciable of riches and prosperity, though there would be lost by it that great enigma, that quadrature of the circle, which Gen. Santa Anna calls nationality."

There is, no doubt, a good deal of bigotry against the United States, existing in certain classes in Mexico; but at the same time, a large and intelligent American party is growing up—the members of which believe, with General Arista, that from annexation "there would come to Mexico, a fountain inappreciable of riches and prosperity." With the advancement of intelligence, this party will grow, and receive immense accessions from the progressive impulses to be imparted to the country by the progress of American enterprise on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. As soon as Mexico is ripe, she will fall into our lap—to have it sooner, would be injurious to both parties; and we do hope that no folly on the part of Mexico, or officious intermeddling by other powers, will arise to precipitate matters.

A New York Correspondent of the Salisbury Republican Banner, regrets to learn that a very distinguished gentleman, one whose name is familiar to the American people, and whose misfortunes have long been softened and alleviated by the public sympathy, has announced his intention of absenting himself from the World's Fair in the Crystal Palace in that City, during the present summer. Need we add to these remarks his name, in order to apprise our readers that reference is made to Mr. William Patterson. That much abused gentleman has received tidings of the various strikes that have taken place in New York this season; and, warned by sad experience, he is determined to keep away from scenes where the outrage that has darkened his career, might be repeated—where, in fact, some audacious individual might again strike Billy Patterson. Mr. Patterson, too, lacks the consolation of knowing that his first assailant had been duly reached by the arm of justice, since it is yet a question for which no solution has yet appeared, "Who struck Billy Patterson?"

Free Press has become associate editor of the Goldsboro' New Era, in which position he will undoubtedly lend fresh spirit to the already entertaining columns of that valuable paper.

The Communication of an esteemed correspondent of Sampson county, has been received. He will see from this No. of our paper, that a publication of his article under present circumstances would be out of place. For this reason only, it does not appear.

Arrival of the Isabel.
The Steamship Isabel arrived at Charleston at nine o'clock on the evening of the 24th, with dates from Havana to the 21st. She left Havana on the morning and Key West on the evening of the 22d. There is actually no political news of importance. The following are the numbers drawing the principal prizes in the Havana Lottery of the 10th inst.:

Numbers.	Prizes.	Numbers.	Prizes.
38,819	\$30,000	389	1,000
25,005	20,000	1,786	9,000
38,169	12,000	3,219	1,000
29,615	6,000	12,959	1,000
3,522	2,000	14,562	1,000
4,302	2,000	21,281	1,000
10,111	2,000	32,150	1,000
24,178	2,000	32,640	1,000
27,461	2,000	34,761	1,000

Rehabilitate Society.
The District Tent of I. O. R. of North Carolina, held their annual meeting in the Temperance Hall, on the 17th inst. The Subordinate Tents of the State were well represented, and the Order proved to be in a most flourishing condition. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

- D. C. R.
- D. D. R.
- D. T.
- D. S.
- D. F. S.
- D. J. S.
- D. M. S.
- D. N. S.
- D. O. S.
- D. P. S.
- D. Q. S.
- D. R. S.
- D. S. S.
- D. T. S.
- D. U. S.
- D. V. S.
- D. W. S.
- D. X. S.
- D. Y. S.
- D. Z. S.

In Good Credit.—The New York Courier & Enquirer quotes North Carolina 6 per cent. stocks at 108.

From the Washington Union.
We understand that the following foreign appointments, some of which have been announced already, have been made by the President; and that other objects of pressing attention prevent his bestowing any further consideration, at present, upon appointments of this class:

- Minister plenipotentiary to Great Britain, James Buchanan, of Pennsylvania. Secretary of legation, John Appleton, of Pennsylvania.
- Minister plenipotentiary to Spain, Pierre Soule, of Louisiana.
- Minister plenipotentiary to Russia, Thomas H. Seymour, of Connecticut.
- Minister plenipotentiary to Mexico, James Gadsden, of S. Carolina. Secretary of legation, John Cripe, of California.
- Minister plenipotentiary to Prussia, Peter B. Vroom, of New Jersey.
- Minister plenipotentiary to Central America, Solon Borland, of Arkansas. Secretary of legation, Frederick A. Beelen, of Pennsylvania.
- Minister plenipotentiary to Brazil, William Trousdale, of Tennessee.
- Minister plenipotentiary to Chili, Samuel Medary, of Ohio.
- Minister plenipotentiary to Peru, John R. Clay, late chargé d'affaires in Paris, and formerly secretary of legation in Russia and Austria.
- Minister plenipotentiary to Switzerland, Theodore S. Fayling, secretary of legation at Berlin.

CHARGES D'AFFAIRES.
For Belgium, J. J. Seibles, of Alabama.
For Saxony, August Belmont, of New York.
For Sardinia, Richard K. Meade, of Virginia.
For Bolivia, Charles L. Woodbury, of Massachusetts.
For Austria, Henry L. Jackson, of Georgia.
For Prussia, John C. Calhoun, of South Carolina.
For Denmark, Henry Belinger, of Virginia.
For Buenos Ayres, William H. Bissell, of Illinois.
For Canada, James L. Greer, of Missouri.
Commissioner to the Hawaiian Islands, Shelton F. Leake, of Virginia.

CONSULS.
Acapulco, Charles L. Denman, of California.
Alexandria, Edwin de Leon, of South Carolina.
Basle, David L. Lee, of Iowa.
Bordeaux, Alfred Gilmore, of Pennsylvania.
Buenos Ayres, John M. Howden, of Ohio.
Bremen, William Hildebrand, of Wisconsin.
Cork, Dennis Mullin, of New York.
Dublin, M. J. Lynch, of Illinois.
Dundee, Wm. H. DeWolf, of Rhode Island.
Havana, Alexander M. Clayton, of Mississippi.
Hong Kong, James L. Greer, of Missouri.
Honolulu, Benjamin F. Angell, of New York.
Hamburg, S. M. Johnson, of Michigan.
Lahaina, Geo. W. Chase, of Maine.
Liverpool, Nathaniel C. Johnson, of Massachusetts.
Melbourne, Jas. M. Tait, of Alabama.
Panama, Thomas W. Ward, of Texas.
Paris, William H. Bissell, of Illinois.
Rio de Janeiro, Robert G. Scott, of Virginia.
St. Thomas, Charles J. Helm, of Kentucky.
Taleahua, Wm. B. Plato, of Illinois.
Tientsin, Wyndham Robertson, of Louisiana.
Trinidad de Cuba, John Hubbard of Maine.
Valparaiso, Reuben Wood, of Ohio.
Venice, Donald G. Mitchell, of Connecticut.
Zurich, George F. Gould, of Pennsylvania.

Later from California.
NEW ORLEANS, May 21.—The steamer Falcon, from Aspinwall, with the California mails and sixty passengers arrived to-day.

The steamer Georgia sailed for New York on the 19th inst., for \$20,000 in gold.

The Falco reports that a number of passengers from New York by the steamers Uncle Sam and Union, have been obliged to take passage on the Pacific mail steamship, in consequence of an accident to the Windfall.

The Empire City sailed for Havana on the 18th. Her news is unimportant. Thos. Strickland, third officer of the Empire City left overboard on the 18th, and was drowned.

Sale of Negroes.
On Friday last several negroes belonging to the estate of Fernin Jernigan, deceased, were sold at the Court-house. One negro about 25 years of age brought \$1040; another somewhere between 30 and 40 years old, sold for \$810. A woman 38 years old and child were knocked down at \$1035. Three boys 11, 12 and 10, brought \$60, \$80, and \$70 dollars respectively. These prices seem to indicate that negroes continue to be in demand at as high rates as have prevailed for some time. The bidding was spirited, and sales quick.—Goldsboro' Patriot 24th inst.

NEW ORLEANS, May 20.—The steamship United States has arrived at this port in 5 days and 2 hours from Aspinwall.

She brings San Francisco papers of the 30th April and a number of passengers brought down to Panama by the steamship "Golden Gate." The run from San Francisco to New Orleans has thus occupied but 19 days.

The United States was coming up, she came in collision with three ships being towed down. The United States was slightly damaged, but the ship Quebec, which cleared here yesterday, for New York, sunk to her deck. The other vessels were not injured. Several tow boats have gone down to attempt to raise the Quebec.

The health of the 18th was good.

The steamship "Golden Gate," on her passage down to Panama, on Monday night, came in collision with another steamer, supposed to be the "Sierra Nevada." The "Golden Gate" sustained only slight injury, and, as the other steamer kept on her way, it is supposed she was not materially damaged.

The California news is of but little importance. We find no mention of the amount of gold taken up by this mail, but the accounts from the mines appear to be a very favorable character.

Two fires had occurred at San Francisco, but they were fortunately extinguished before any damage of importance was done.

A CARD.
To the Democracy of this District:
"My soul aches,
To know where two authorities are,
May enter 'twixt the gap of both, and take
The one by the other."
[CORIOLANUS.]
We have never filled a space in the public eye sufficiently large to make it other than vanity and presumption to come out under the imposing caption above, if this communication concerned our humble and obscure self alone. But owing to our connection with matters fully referred to below, the use of the caption is not arrogant, while the remarks following it are due to ourselves, and doubly due to the Democratic party of this District.

It is quite generally known that, for several months past, we have been acting as Editor of the DEMOCRATIC FREE PRESS, in Wilmington. We attempted, in carrying out our ideas of the mission of a Democratic Editor, to pursue, so far as our indifferent ability goes, a fearless, independent course, promotive of the unity, the harmony, the security, the permanence of the Democratic party, embracing all the principles, usages, and doctrines for which it has contended and struggled through every national and sectional vicissitude up to the period of their triumphant success in '46, and the unparalleled endorsement of their success in the nearly unanimous election of Gen. Pierce.

We have endeavored to make the "Press," while under our humble "super," a co-organ (with other Democratic papers) of the party as an entire body, and have discouraged, and discountenanced every reckless effort to engender or foster a faction.

Pursuing this course, with a sincere and steadfast desire to contribute everything in our power to the general unanimity, and nothing to a local rupture or personal schism in the party, we thought it conducive to such an end to consider and support Mr. Ashe, as its well-understood choice for Congress; a choice, which, while it was peculiarly agreeable to his own party, contained in it elements of considerable popularity and acceptableness with the Whigs. Everything we could learn regarding it, but strengthened and enlightened our convictions in the matter, and made it more and more conclusive to our mind, that our course was correct.

The course pursued by the older and more experienced papers of the District—the "Journal" and the "Carolinian"—entirely confirmed, and assured us of the rectitude of ours.

But the "Cabinet was not a unit," that is to say—those having a controlling interest in the financial operations of the "Free Press" honorably, and conscientiously, no doubt, differed from us. We were willing to reduce the disagreement to a unit through a purchase; but the others concerned were unwilling to relinquish their interests, and but one resort was left us, which was to retire from a position that could only embarrass us, and perhaps render unpleasant the relations existing between the parties involved. We have retired. The "Free Press" is no longer, in any shape, under our entire or partial control. It has passed to able, and perhaps more prudent hands.

In retiring, we abate not one jot or tittle of the interest we have felt, encouraged and manifested in the election of the late popular and able incumbent. We retire strengthened and invigorated, and we feel that the Democracy as a body, and not others as its constituents heretofore, are ungrateful and impolitic enough not to return him to the well-cultivated field of his former labors with a triumphant, an overwhelming expression of their gratitude for his services, and of their entire approbation of the manner in which he has discharged their trust confided.

Our sphere of political activity will be humbler and smaller during the remainder of the campaign; but we consider it incumbent on us, in justice to the party, to Mr. Ashe, to our recent position, and our consistency and sincerity to improve every opportunity the narrower sphere affords, to promoting the success of the candidate whose merits and title we have heretofore advocated.

We will, we hope, be borne with while adding further, that if, when members to our national and State Legislatures, and popular and influential, beloved by their own party, and respected and esteemed by the opposite one, they are to be thrown aside, to be thrust off just as they have fairly earned upon the threshold of distinction to themselves and usefulness to their constituents, they will cease to aspire to posts of service and honor; and impair men, who will use no industrious and honest effort in a laudable strife to emulate each other in worthy conduct, will come in; the only contest will be to make the most selfish and corrupt use of brief terms of public service.

In view, therefore, of the whole, we urge upon our brother Democrats, and upon Mr. A.'s constituents of all parties, to sustain their tried and faithful representative at the polls.—We are not vain nor arrogant enough to urge this course from any force or strength it derives from our advocacy of it; but because it is naked, unadorned merit presents a strength and force of their own which have made an irresistible appeal to our judgment, and which we apprehend are urgent, convincing and forcible enough, to have made the same impression upon hosts of others.

We have here indicated the reasons and motives which influenced us to consider Mr. Ashe the preference of his District, and consequently our decided preference: they have proved incompatible with the views and wishes of the major control in the management of the Free Press, and we consequently withdraw. But these reasons and motives have lost none of their force with us, and will attend us 'till the day of the election, and on that day, will fill us with a lively anticipation of a happy and righteous result, which we expect, in some measure, to contribute to.

Respectfully, yours,
LAW BADGER.
Teachey's, Duplin, N. C., May 23d, 1853.
Democratic Free Press, and Carolinian please copy.

To the Voters of 3d Congressional District.
Fellow-Citizens.—Circumstances which will be discussed in the coming day, render it imperative that I should withdraw from the canvass for Congress in this District, and should announce to my fellow-citizens that I am no longer a candidate. I am deeply grateful for the kind manifestations which I have received from many friends, and if I did not feel assured that all who wish me well would approve my course, (as it has been approved by those whom I have had in my power to consult,) I would not hesitate a moment to remain in the field and abide the result.

I have the honor to be,
Very Respectfully,
May 24th, '53.
D. K. McRAE.

Anti-Rent Outrage.
SCHOHARIE, N. Y., May 19.—A Mr. Lawrence proceeded to the house of Jacob J. Deltz, on Tuesday last for the purpose of serving a summons. He found Mr. D. near his house, and handed him the papers.—Deltz took them and read them, when he threw them on the ground, seized Lawrence by the throat, calling him a damned scoundrel, for coming to serve papers on him. He then called to his family to blow a horn when a man named Hollenbeck, who was at work for Deltz as a mason, interceded for Lawrence, who managed to get away, and started off on a run. Deltz followed in pursuit, knocked Lawrence down, and held him until four men in disguise made their appearance. They then tied his hands behind him, and took him to a small place of brush, near by; then tore off his coat, vest and cravat, and with a jack knife cut off his hair, occasionally cutting the scalp, and remarking that they might as well scalp him as to let him go. They tied his head and body, and poured tar into his ears. After exhausting all their ingenuity this way, each cut a stick, and whipped him until they got tired.—They then tied his hands before him, and started him for the house, each of them kicking him at every step. They made him take the papers back, but took them away again, when, after knocking him down again, they left him, and he succeeded in reaching the residence of George Becker last evening. His legs, hands, arms, and face are badly bruised.

Mr. Secretary Dobbin.
WASHINGTON, May 21.
The Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Dobbin, will visit his home, in North Carolina, in the course of the coming fortnight, stopping on his way at Norfolk to inspect the Japan squadron now awaiting orders to sail.

From the Raleigh Standard.
Messrs. Craige and Osborne.
We copy from the last Charlotte Democrat the following sketch of the discussion between these gentlemen before the people of Union County. Mr. Craige, we learn, is fully sustaining his high reputation as a public speaker. His object in this regard is as certain. The Democrat's article is as follows:

"DISCUSSION AT MONROE.—On Tuesday the candidates for Congress met at Monroe, and addressed the people upon the questions now at issue between the parties. Mr. Craige led off in a speech of an hour's length. He commenced by stating that he was the candidate for the Republican party, that he had not the pleasure of meeting the Union Democrat since 1840, when he addressed them during the excitement of that eventful period—when they were depressed and overrun by a whirlwind of excitement—got up by the hard cider and con skin humbuggery—since then the aspect of affairs has changed: now they are a triumphant and successful majority—that the principles and measures he then advocated are in successful operation, and even acknowledged to be correct by their opponents.

Under the operation of the present measures, the country has gone on to prosper beyond anything ever known in our previous history. He adverted to those old measures to show that the predictions of the Whigs had utterly failed—that the Independent Treasury, a great Democratic measure, had fully realized the expectations of its friends and that the Tariff of '46, instead of bankrupting the country had brought more money into the Treasury than was required for the economical administration of the government, and that all interests had flourished under it. He then adverted to the Inaugural address of President Pierce, and dwelt with eloquence upon the bold and fearless manner in which the compromise and the rights of the States were endorsed in that document, and showed the importance of sustaining a man and a party at the North who were sound upon those questions.

He then proceeded to discuss the doctrine of the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands among the States; he said that it was unconstitutional and inexpedient, that every President since the days of Jefferson was opposed to it. He then read from Mr. Calhoun's Mr. Polk's and Mr. Rencher's speeches against it.

By recurrence to fundamental principles he showed it repugnant to the genius of our institutions, and had a direct tendency to destroy the independence of the representative upon his constituency—of making the State mere provinces of the general government, leading to consolidation, and building up a magnificent federal head at the center.

This territory has cost the government over three hundred millions of dollars which was paid by indirect taxation. Now to distribute these lands in the possession of the Government is virtually to distribute the duties themselves, which would make the federal government the tax gatherer, and the States the tax payers. He then adverted to the Western States and the urgency of Northern capitalists might demand. Where do the gentlemen get the power from to distribute these lands? We were taught to believe that this government was one of limited powers and that Congress had only the right to exercise powers clearly granted or necessary to carry out one that is granted. If Congress possessed this power there is the limitation. If it has as high as in Bennett's bill to devote to North Carolina, for educational purposes, why has it not right to embark in any scheme of internal improvements which it may believe to be necessary? If this doctrine is correct the State Legislatures can vote away as much money as they please—the federal government steps in as tax gatherer, collects the money and distributes it, which is just assuming the debts of the States. The consequence would be that the South (the consumers, therefore the tax payers,) would be ground to dust by the money of the North. It would be re-enacting the bill of abominations which came very near driving one of our southern states into open rebellion.

The distributing the public lands is even worse than that of the duties themselves—for had the duties been distributed in cash, the enormous expenditures attending the management of the public lands would have been saved—the picking and stealing—commissions and salaries of federal officers retained in the Treasury or the hands of other departments. Five shire would have been nearer twelve millions of dollars in cash than a million and a half of worthless, wolf-inhabited lands, situated in New Mexico or on the ledges of the Rocky Mountains, which could not be disposed of even if we had it.

Mr. Osborne came out boldly in favor of Bennett's land bill, which provides for giving North Carolina one million five hundred thousand acres, while it grants to Arkansas, a little State, which paid little or none of the money with which these lands were purchased, three million five hundred thousand acres.

The policy of distributing lands now standing indebted to taxation in the net sum of three hundred millions of dollars, (according to the statistics of a leading Whig,) and that, too, in proportion to federal representation, is gratuitously inflicting the grossest inequality and injustice upon the old Southern States, from which the States which receive the lands were purchased were almost exclusively raised.

The simple doctrine—the impregnable position of the republican party, is that the lands bought with the revenues raised by taxation, should be economically and honestly sold by the federal government, and then the proceeds applied to the extinguishment of the amount they stand indebted to the revenues of the government, and the balance of the customs.

He then proceeded to discuss the question of the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands among the States, and showed that the doctrine of the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands among the States, was just assuming the debts of the States. The consequence would be that the South (the consumers, therefore the tax payers,) would be ground to dust by the money of the North. It would be re-enacting the bill of abominations which came very near driving one of our southern states into open rebellion.

The distinction cannot be maintained between money raised for direct distribution and money raised for investment in lands intended to be distributed. If the funds arising from the sale of public lands be distributed, a vacuum will be produced in the public treasury, and an increase of tariff will necessarily follow.

In view of these facts, Mr. Craige then urged to the Republican party to stand by their ancient faith; he said it was no new question—it was a portion of the great American system, originated by Mr. Clay and afterwards vetted by Gen. Jackson and Mr. Tyler. The principles involved are as old as the Constitution itself, and exhibit the same antagonism between absolute consolidation and simple confederation. Mr. Craige views upon this question, that they may as well scalp him as to let him go. They tied his head and body, and poured tar into his ears. After exhausting all their ingenuity this way, each cut a stick, and whipped him until they got tired.—They then tied his hands before him, and started him for the house, each of them kicking him at every step. They made him take the papers back, but took them away again, when, after knocking him down again, they left him, and he succeeded in reaching the residence of George Becker last evening. His legs, hands, arms, and face are badly bruised.

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From the Fayetteville "North Carolinian."
Fraternal Discussion.
On Thursday afternoon the candidates for Congress in this District addressed the people of Union County in the Market House. Mr. McRae led off and spoke for an hour and a half in a usually self-possessed and impressive manner. The argument of his speech was on the question of distributing the public lands. This was the essential point of difference between the candidates—Mr. McRae advocating and Mr. Ashe opposing that policy. The bill known as Bennett's Land Distribution Bill, which was lost last March Congress, became also the subject of discussion. Mr. McRae assigns Mr. Ashe for having voted against it. This bill large quantities of public lands were given to the different States for purposes of education and internal improvement. Mr. Ashe defended his vote on that bill and to the entire satisfaction of his numerous friends. He showed that the bill was contrary to one of the articles of the Democratic Platform as adopted at Baltimore in June last. The article is as follows:

"Resolved, That the proceeds of the public lands ought to be sacredly applied to the national objects specified in the constitution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution of these lands among the States, as alike repugnant in policy and repugnant to the constitution."

Mr. Ashe showed that the distribution of the lands was equivalent to the distribution of the proceeds of the lands, and that if the lands were given away to the different States there could be no proceeds to be applied in the manner pointed out by the Democratic Platform. We will not attempt to give an outline of the argument pursued by the speakers. We may be permitted to say, however, that Mr. Ashe's defence of his course and votes was completely satisfactory to every democrat with whom we have conversed upon the subject.

Mr. McRae saw fit to allude to the Editor of this paper, and to complain of an expression which he used last week when he had "heretofore acted with the democratic party." He had "heretofore acted" that is not now acting with the party. He made an eloquent appeal to the democracy, recalling the many services he had done the party. Now we are not disposed to undervalue Mr. McRae and his services. He has undoubtedly, in times past, used his fine talents, as many of our readers know, for the service of the party. But as he gave us the credit of being a candid man, we must be permitted to say, with all respect for our man, we must be permitted to say, that we cannot regard him and the most kindly as at all calculated to benefit the Democratic Party. On the other hand, it is not calculated to breed distrust and ultimate defeat. Let it be recollected that by the late change in this Congressional District, the Whig vote has been increased to upwards of 4,000, whilst the Democratic vote is not 7,000.—Suppose that Mr. McRae should divide the Democratic vote with Mr. Ashe, would not a fair opportunity be given to the Whig? We trust that this will not be the result. We trust that this will be avoided by the Democratic Whig, who will upon William S. Ashe, the faithful representative of his constituency—the Democrat who makes the recorded principles of his party the guides of his public life.

Towards Mr. McRae, personally, we entertain none but the most kindly sentiments. We